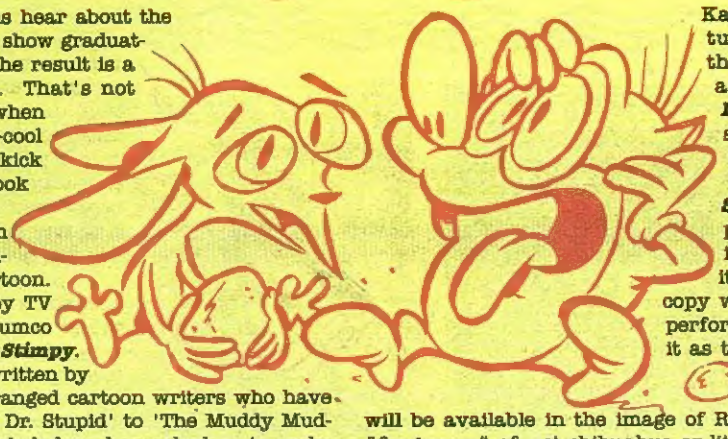
# COMIC SHOP NEWS™

272

Ferret ™ & ©1992 Malibu Graphics, ARR.

# Marvel's Reigning Cat & Dog



Generally, when comics fans hear about the stars of an animated television show graduating to their own comic series, the result is a book aimed at young readers. That's not necessarily the case, though, when the stars of Nickelodeon's way-cool animated series ***Ren & Stimpy*** kick off their own Marvel comic book series in October.

According to Marvel's Kevin Tang, "***Ren & Stimpy*** will be super-faithful to the original cartoon. The covers are fully painted by TV series painter Bill Wray of Spumco Studios, the creators of ***Ren & Stimpy***. Many upcoming issues will be written by some of the same seriously deranged cartoon writers who have given us everything from 'Ask Dr. Stupid' to 'The Muddy Mudskipper Show.' In addition, Nickelodeon has asked us to make our comic even more gross than their TV show, which means even more magic nose goblins, hairballs, and litter-box antics."

***Ren & Stimpy*** is written by Dan Slott and illustrated by Mike Kazaleh; each issue will feature self-contained stories that are aimed at the same adult fans who have made ***Ren & Stimpy*** the biggest surprise hit in modern animation history.

The first issue of ***Ren & Stimpy*** will be shipped in a polybag so that Marvel can include one of two bonus items with each book. Every copy will come pre-packed with a perforated "air fouler." Think of it as the opposite of an air freshener: the air foulers will be available in the image of Ren or Stimpy, featuring the "fragrance" of wet chihuahua or litterbox.

***Ren & Stimpy #1***, a $2.25 comic, is scheduled for October 8th release.

*by* Kim B. Pearson

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# Protector Ferrets Out His Own One-Shot

Malibu's new superhero series, ***The Protectors,*** was an even bigger hit than Malibu initially anticipated, with advance orders exceeding 80,000 copies. Not too long after fans get a chance to meet The Protectors in the first issue of their own title, one of the members of the team will appear in his own limited series. The Ferret, described by writer R.A. Jones and artist Thomas Derenick as "a Wolverine-type," stars in a tale of friendship and revenge as The Ferret takes on the Purple Dragon Tong after their minions kill a long-time friend of his; the battle takes a surprising twist, though, when the Ferret finds himself doing battle with the Iron Skull, a superhero controlled by the leader of the Purple Dragon Tong. ***Ferret #1***, a $1.95 comic, is scheduled for late September release.

Be here next week when **CSN Give and Take** reviews ***Ferret #1***, offering you a look at more of Thomas Derenick's top-notch artwork for this one-shot.

*by* Cliff Biggers

# Valor-ous Conduct

In the Legion of Super-Heroes' time, Lar Gand is legendary--but in the pages of ***Valor,*** he's just learning the super-hero ropes, so to speak. Editor Michael Eury describes him as "just a big kid from another planet, taking a joy ride in space." But he has a goal that's almost an obsession with him: he is determined to stop Eclipso and his plans to build a new base, a Lunar City.

Lar Gand plays a prominent role in the conclusion of ***Eclipso: The Darkness Within***; it is in the pages of that conflict that he gains his heroic name Valor. Once ***The Darkness Within*** concludes, Valor's role as a superhero not only pits him against the continuing menace of Eclipso, but it also takes him across the DC Universe as he explores one planet after another, meeting various DC characters along the way. Editor Michael Eury stresses that, while both Valor and Eclipso are getting their own series after the events of ***The Darkness Within***, the two series aren't tied in together. "***Eclipso*** is a dark, grim series, with a classic villain at itsl core," Eury said. "***Valor*** is quite the opposite. It's about a young hero, discovering what it's like to be powerful."

Early in the series, Valor will meet such DC characters as Lex Luthor II and Vril Dox of the LEGION. Eury promises frequent guest-stars from the full panorama of the DC Universe.

***Valor*** is written by Robert Loren Fleming and illustrated by M.D. Bright and Al Gordon. The first issue of this new ongoing series is scheduled for September 17th release.

*by* Wayne Lee

# X-Ecutioner's Song Has Mutants Singing the Blues

For several years, Professor X was absent from Marvel's mutant books, having ventured far from home in the company of Lilandra. Since his return to Earth a couple of years ago, Charles Xavier's role has been increasingly important in the X-Men titles--but beginning this September, the fate of Xavier will be the crux of a twelve-part storyline that will bring the X-Men, X-Force, and X-Factor together in a life-and-death mission.

The events soon to be revealed to mutant fans in the ***Cable*** miniseries kick off *X-Ecutioner's Song*; in this twelve-part story arc, Stryfe concludes that the present is the perfect time to attack the X-Men, Mr. Sinister, and Apocalypse. His assault begins with an assassination attempt on Professor X; while the attempt fails, his kidnapping of Cyclops and Jean Grey is successful. To defend Charles Xavier and to rescue Scott and Jean, the X-Men split into two teams and call in X-Factor as well. A confrontation with X-Force ensues before the teams pull together to face a common enemy.

According to Kevin Tang of Marvel, "This epic tale featuring most of Marvel's merry mutants will include such cataclysmic clashes as Bishop and Wolverine's fight with Cable and Archangel's confrontation with his creator, Apocalypse, the mutant who changed Warrren Worthington III from the sky-soaring Angel to the blue-skinned, razor-winged Archangel. You'll also see the return of Apocalypse's Four Horsemen."

Additionally, mutant fans will see the debut of the new X-book creators, replacing the recently-departed creators who helped found Image Comics. Fabian Nicieza, currently the writer of ***X-Force,*** will also take over the writing honors on ***X-Men;*** he will be joined by Andy Kubert, whose work on ***Ghost Rider*** has attracted a great deal of critical acclaim. While Nicieza remains as the writer of ***X-Force,*** he is joined by new artist Greg Capullo, the hot artist of ***Quasar.*** Scott Lobdell and Brandon Peterson will handle the creative honors on ***Uncanny X-Men*** for the duration of the crossover storyline; afterwards, John Romita Jr. is slated to illustrate the book. Peter David and Larry Stroman continue as the creators of ***X-Factor.***

To make the twelve installments of *X-Ecutioner's Song* even more desirable, Marvel is poly-bagged each book with a specially-designed trading card available only with the polybagged comic. Fans who collect the entire twelve-part storyline will acquire a complete twelve-card set. Each installment of *X-Ecutioner's Song* is priced at $1.50.

*X-Ecutioner's Song* kicks off on September 3rd with the release of ***Uncanny X-Men #294*** and continues through the September, October, and November releases of all four X-titles.

*by* Wayne Lee



COMIC SHOP NEWS™

9 • 9 • 92

From Your Friendly Neighborhood Comics Outlet

Printed on 100% Recycled Newsprint

## Nightstalkers: a Borderline Hit

Marvel has introduced several hit titles in conjunction with its "Rise of the Midnight Sons" storyline running through the **Ghost Rider** family of titles; for the most part, these titles have promoted supporting characters to star status—including Morbius and Johnny Blaze. This trend continues in October when the final title in the "Rise of the Midnight Sons" storyline, Nighstalkers, brings back Hannibal King, Frank Drake, and Blade—all of whom were supporting characters in Marvel's critically acclaimed **Dracula** series.

According to Marvel's Kevin Tang, "...This trio, whose lives have been scarred by the curse of vampirism, form their own investigative services agency called Borderline. They have vowed to destroy anything that is supernatural, and by living secret adventures as members of the Nightstalkers, they do just that...."

The Nightstalkers' debut mission pits them against a pair of supernaturally-oriented characters—Ghost Rider and Johnny Blaze. Sure, you know that they're heroes, but the Nightstalkers don't, because a disguised Lilith has misrepresented them to the Nightstalkers as creatures of evil.

**Nighstalkers** is written by *Dan Chichester* and illustrated by *Ron Garney* and *Tom Palmer*. The first issue of this new series, a 48-page $2.75 comic polybagged with a bonus poster, is slated for September 3rd release.

## A Heaping Helping of Evil

Evil Ernie, the five-issue miniseries that presented the story of a psychotic young killer, was an instant sellout for Adventure Comics; many fans are still trying to find later issues of the miniseries (the first issue has already been reprinted in a special edition). To make their search a little easier, Adventure is reprinting the entire Brian Pulido-Steven Hughes storyline in Evil Ernie's Graphic Novel, complete with a new Hughes cover. The $10.95 book gives readers who missed out on part of the storyline an opportunity to fill in the gaps--and it offers new readers a chance to find out what all the excitement is about. Evil Ernie's Graphic Novel is scheduled for September release.

## Keep the Home Fires Burning

The title of John Constantine's comic is about to becoming more meaningful than he expected: beginning in **Hellblazer #59**, writer *Garth Ennis* and artist *Will Simpson* explore Constantine's role in Hell in a three-part story entitled "Guys and Dolls." In the first installment of the story, Constantine's demon friend Ellie escapes from Hell--but she's merely a pawn in the conflict between Constantine and the First of the Fallen. *Glenn Fabry* supplies the painted cover for the September 24th release.

## If You Have Some Time To Kill...

Fleetway-Quality expands its line of anthology titles this fall with the release of **Time Killers #1,** an anthology of illustrated British Science Fiction. If you've enjoyed the sf you've found in the pages of 2000 AD Showcase, then you'll love the high-tech action in this book of "advanced cybertechs, stories of limited futures and multiple pasts, of time travel and dimensional jumping, and of man's foray into a universe that would rather he just stay home!" **Time Killers #1** will feature a cover by *Steve Fastner* and *Rich Larson*; look for the $2.95 comic in late November.

## An End To Death?...

Can it be true? Is **Deadworld** coming to an end? Yes and no... **Deadworld #26**, a special 48-page issue, is indeed the final issue of the ongoing Deadworld series, but it won't be the final appearance of the Deadworld concept. According to Caliber's *Gary Reed*, "**Deadworld** fans can take note that Deadworld will return in an all-new set of miniseries in a few months." Before switching to this new miniseries format for **Deadworld,** though, *Phillip Hester* and *Vince Locke* wanted to wrap up loose ends, show us what's happened to older characters and re-establish them in the **Deadworld** universe prior to the debut of various miniseries, and share a few reader letters. This finale will also reprint the backup stories of Amy by *Paul Daly* and *Vince Locke*, since Amy is going to be an important character in upcoming **Deadworld** miniseries. **Deadworld #26,** a 48-page $3.50 comic, is scheduled for September release; as always, the book will be published with both graphic and tame covers.

"Tina Turner" (Carmen Carpenter) DARK ZULU ! MR. T !

# "MR. T IS AFRAID OF THE DARK !"

## So Sez The Dark Zulu !

On August 14, 1992 The **DARK ZULU** publicaly challenged **MR. T** to the "*Fuego In San Diego*" or the battle of the real, live superheros. But LEGENDARY TOUGH GUY **MR. T** WIMPED OUT !

THE CHALLENGE was issued to his face after **MR. T**, who will soon be appearing in his own comic book, challenged all of the costumed superheros at the San Diego Comic-Con '92.
Detroit's own "Tina Turner" look-a-like-**Carmen Carpenter,**
was there to referee and prevent **DARK ZULU** from hurting the geriatric.

**MR. T** had stated that he was the real, live, Black superhero and that all others were fake. What he did not know was that there was indeed already a real, live, Black superhero within the comics community known as **DARK ZULU** !

The **DARK ZULU** is none other than **Nabile Hage**, publisher, writer, mascot, and President of **DARK ZULU LIES**, Comics Inc. (**DZL**), which publishes the nearly infamous full color *MOTORBIKE PUPPIES* comic book.

**Hage** says that **DARK ZULU** is the real, live superhero because he gives unknown artists a shot at being published. The innards of **DZL** comics are completed by unknowns; the covers by published artists. The cover artist may even have been one formerly published by **DARK ZULU** as in *Motorbike Puppies* #2.

The known **DZL** artists are
1) Will Eisner Award Winner **Mike Okamoto** *(Motorbike Puppies #3, On A Pale Horse, Lost In Space, Atomic Age, Hell Raiser, Hero Alliance)*
2) **NELSON** ( *Motorbike Puppies #1, Ghostrider 18, RoboCop 3 mini series, Wizard 13, Punisher G-Force)*
3) **Roger Barnes** *( Zwanna-Son of Zulu, Horus-Son of Osiris, Heru-Son of Ausar, Turner #1.)*

As for **MR. T**, **THE DARK ZULU SEZ:** "You're still my idol, but I'LL BREAK YOU LIKE A SHOT GUN!"

DzL Dark Zulu Lies Comics Inc.
**The Motorbike Puppies #1** 32pgs. FC
Shipped June. Cover By NELSON
**3RD World #1** 32pgs. FC
Shipping Sept.
**The Motorbike Puppies #2** 32pgs. FC
Shipping Sept.
**The Worlds First**$_{tm}$ **Magnetic Trading Cards**$_{tm}$ Ships Oct.

# QUICKSHOTS

## All In the Family

Jim Gordon, not Batman, is the focus of **Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight Annual #2.** Flass, Gordon's enemy from Batman: Year One, abducts Gordon's son James Jr., thereby interrupting the impending wedding of Gordon and Sarah Essen. Batman sets out to find Gordon's son, while a battered, humiliated Gordon must decide whether to follow the rules he's upheld all his professional life--or whether to abandon those rules in a no-hold-barred effort to get back at Flass and his men. *Dennis O'Neil, Michael Netzer,* and *Luke McDonnell* present the story in **Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight Annual #2,** a $3.50 comic scheduled for October 8th release.

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## A Malevolent Clown

Comic Zone's **Psycho Killers #8**, focusing on serial killer *John Wayne Gacy*, has a rather unique and ominous claim to fame. The comic book features a "Pogo the Clown" cover painting by Gacy himself; Pogo is the clown guise that Gacy would don at children's parties. In addition to a comic book story outlining Gacy's murderous career, the book will feature the text of a letter written by Gacy, talking about his crimes, as well as an FBI report about the investigation. According to Comic Zone, "The expressed beliefs of John Wayne Gacy are his alone and do not represent the beliefs of the Comic Zone Productions publishers or staff members. Our story about the known facts surrounding the Gacy case will be our personal rebuttal to Gacy's story." **Psycho Killers #8** is scheduled for September release.

## An Arcane Tale

Batman has the Joker...Superman has Lex Luthor...and Swamp Thing has Anton Arcane. After a lengthy absence due to his death (well, at least he had a good excuse!...), Arcane is back in **Swamp Thing #125**. He's escaped from Hell, driven by his desire for revenge on Swamp Thing and Abby--and to hurt them, he targets their daughter Tefé. If that isn't enough, he also brings back several people from Swamp Thing's past, including the Bogeyman, Dennis Barclay, Father Tocsin, and Matt Cable. Can Swamp Thing bring himself to battle his own daughter--even if it's the only way to save her life? **Swamp Thing #125**, a special extra-length anniversary issue, is produced by the regular Swamp Thing team of *Collins, Eaton,* and *DeMulder; John Higgins* supplies the painted cover.

## A-1 For Epic

*Dave Elliott*'s **A-1** series, published by Atomeka Press, was praised for its variety and its high quality; it's no wonder that so many comic fans were disappointed when Elliott announced that the Atomeka **A-1** run was coming to an end as Elliott moved on to Marvel Comics. As it turns out, **A-1** has found a new home as well, courtesy of Marvel's Epic comics; the first issue of Epic's **A-1** (which is initially slated as a four-issue bookshelf-format limited series) is slated for October 29th release, and it will feature new material by *P. Craig Russell, Scott Hampton, Nick Abadzis, Roger Langridge, Ed Hillyer, Igor Goldkind, Glen Fabry,* and *Simon Bisley.* **A-1 #1** is priced at $5.95.

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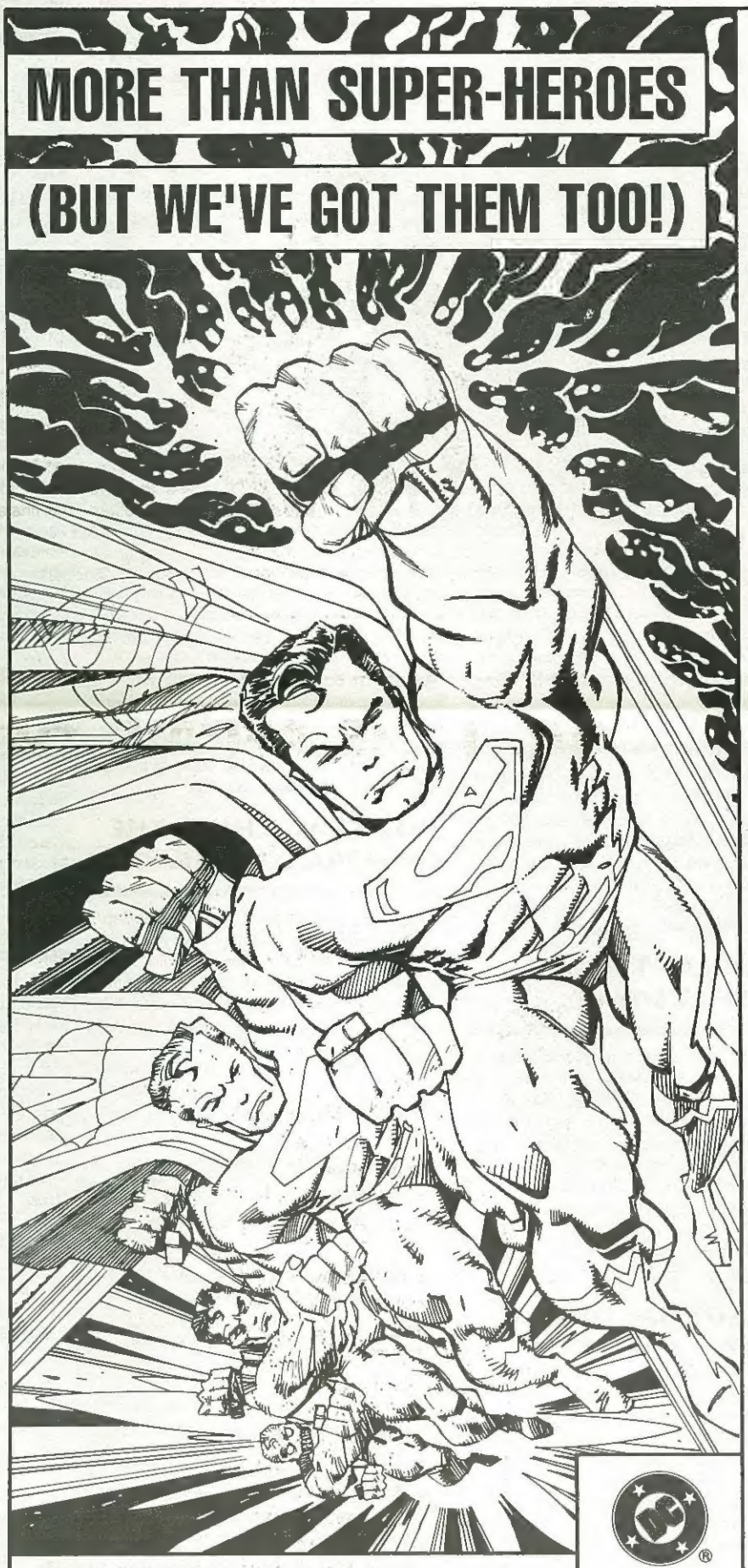


## SUPERMAN SPECIAL #1

Popular writer and artist Walter Simonson joins the Man of Steel for this riveting self-contained special! Plus pinups by Todd McFarlane, Frank Miller, Barry Windsor-Smith and others.

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## THE DARKSTARS #1

Intergalactic space police sent to protect the earth! The Darkstars are here! Hot new monthly title!

## ECLIPSO: THE DARKNESS WITHIN #2

Eclipso wages an all-out war on the dark side of the moon—the shocking conclusion of this summer's crossover blockbuster!

# SEPTEMBER HOT PICKS

by cliff biggers

For many of us, September was an eventful month during our childhood: that was the month when new Saturday morning cartoon shows began. For comics fans, this September is going to be eventful in a similar way: this is the month that two new comic books based on cartoon shows—which are in turn based on already-existing comic books—debut. It's also a good month for mutant fans, as Marvel unveils a twelve-parter intended to captivate X-readers. So, without further ado, let's take a look at the Top Two Dozen from this month's cornucopia of comics.

## BATMAN ADVENTURES 1

In the next week or so, Fox will unveil its ***Batman*** animated series in a prime-time roll-out; at about the same time, DC will unveil its monthly comic book based on the animated series. ***Batman Adventures*** is illustrated in the same style as the animated series—but believe me, that's a good thing! The Batman cartoon series will be without a doubt a real comics-crowd-pleaser, what with its moody atmosphere and gothic noir overtones; the comic captures that strong visual look, thanks to the dynamic work of artist Ty Templeton. Don't think of this one as a ***Batman*** comic for kids; all ages will enjoy this well-crafted series. *(DC, $1.25)*

## CABLE 2

This is the second part of the two-issue miniseries that leads into the **X-Ecutioner's Song** twelve-parter running through Marvel titles this fall. Cable remains the hottest mutant this side of Wolverine, so you know that this title will disappear in short order. The quality creative team—writer Fabian Nicieza and artist John Romita Jr.—ensure that readers will be pleased with what they find inside those covers. *(Marvel, $2.50)*

## ECLIPSO 1

In the Sixties, ***Eclipso*** was an offbeat minor series made memorable by some great Alex Toth art; in the past few months, though, DC has upgraded Eclipso from B-character status to major villain. Now he gets his own series, courtesy of the same creators responsible for the ***Eclipso: The Darkness Within*** titles. It's great to see Bart Sears working on monthly comic again; judging from the strongly favorable response to ***Eclipso: The Darkness Within #1***, I'm not the only one who feels that way. *(DC, $1.25)*

## FERRET 1

Some have referred to him as the Protectors' answer to Wolverine—and that's not too far off. That's likely to be a real asset for this book, which surpasses its parent title in excitement and visual appeal. This one is going to have a very short shelf-life—and it's likely to spur a lot of requests for a ***Ferret*** ongoing series... *(Malibu, $1.95)*

## GREEN LANTERN: GANTHET'S TALE

Larry Niven, the superlative science fiction writer whose Ringworld tales set the standard for speculative technical sf in the 70's, brings his grand vision to the Green Lantern legend; the resulting cosmic tale should thrill Green Lantern fans. Adding to the excitement is John Byrne's art; with a creative team like Niven and Byrne, this is the Green Lantern book of the year, no doubt. *(DC, $5.95)*

"THE COUNT"
...AND I MAKE 49! THIS VILLAGE HAS PAID THE PRICE FOR TREATING ONE OF THEIR OWN AS AN OUTCAST!
SINCE HE WAS ALONE ANYWAY, HE HAD NOTHING TO LOSE BY TAKING HIS REVENGE!
WITH THE HELP OF ECLIPSO...

## GUY GARDNER 1

He's baaaack... Guy Gardner, finally armed with his very own power ring once again, returns to monthly comics in a series produced by the team responsible for his very successful limited series. Gardner's new yellow ring gives him the power to back up his attitude—and that means trouble for anyone who crosses him. It's that attitude that has made Gardner a star with his legion of fans; they'll be pleased to see that he hasn't changed a bit. *(DC, $1.25)*

## HARD CORPS 1

In the aftermath of **Unity**, all we have to say is "it's a Valiant first issue." Fans are already clamoring for early issues of all the other Valiant titles, and prices are skyrocketing so steadily that last week's quotes are already too low. ***HARD Corps*** will benefit from that strong Valiant following; it'll also be popular with fans who met the team in their appearances in ***Harbinger*** #s 10 and 11 (***Harbinger #10*** is already getting hard to find). The Jim Lee cover is just an added bonus... *(Valiant, $2.50)*

## JUSTICE MACHINE: THE CHIMERA CONSPIRACY 1

They were one of the first independent comics superteams of the 1980's; now they're returning with new costumes and a new storyline. Millennium has also borrowed a page from Valiant's book and made this book even more attractive by bringing in a top illustrator, Adam Hughes,to create a special "comic within a comic" serial that retells the origin of the Justice Machine. *(Millennium, $2.50)*

**september's overlooked sizzler**

Bo Hampton is one of the most talented painters working in the comics medium today; alas, he's meticulous enough with his work that there are long gaps between Hampton projects. Thankfully, Tundra is offering a new Bo Hampton book this month—and it's just in time for the Halloween season that's approaching. ***The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*** is a 48-page adaptation of Washington Irving's classic American folk tale (adapted, in turn, from German and Dutch folk tales); it's a lovely retelling of a story that never grows old. Tundra is releasing the book in an affordable $6.95 softcover edition—but fans who want a true collectible will spring for the $19.95 hardcover...

**legend of sleepy hollow**

## KATO OF THE GREEN HORNET II 1

Sure, the Green Hornet has a long-standing nostalgic appeal... but its Kato who's the real star of the series for a lot of fans, judging from their enthusiastic response to the first Kato miniseries. Mike Baron has come back to write a second Kato miniseries, and he's joined by a top-notch martial arts artist, Val Mayerik, whose ***Young Master*** was one of the best-done martial arts books in the past decade. A popular character and top talent sound like a perfect formula for a quick sellout... *(Now, $2.50)*

## MACROSS II 1

Now this is an example of great cross-marketing. To build enthusiasm for this book, Viz and US Renditions have timed it so that the first issue of the comic adaptation of ***Macross II*** will hit the stands at about the same time the first part of the videotape is available. That should give the comic adaptation a real sales boost; in fact, it's very likely this book has been underordered, so grab it while you have a chance. *(Viz, $2.75)*

## MARVEL AGE 118

No, you didn't read that wrong: ***Marvel Age***, the Marvel news-comic that has greatly improved under new editor Steve Saffel, is indeed a hot pick. That isn't *just* because of Saffel's quality work, though; there's also the matter of a Hulk ***Marvel Masterpieces*** promo card that's included with every copy... *(Marvel, $1.50)*

## THE MASK RETURNS 1

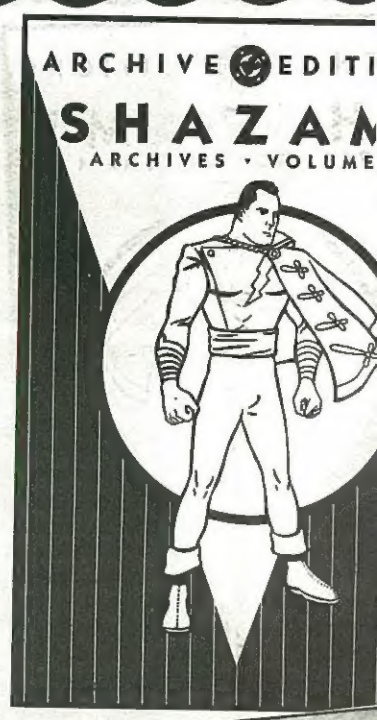
Cross the mischievousness of Bugs Bunny with the malevolence of Hannibal Lector and you have the new Mask. The combination of cartoonish violence and grim real-world action made the last Mask series a sleeper hit; expect the response to this series to be even stronger. ***The Mask Returns*** takes the "grim and gritty" approach to its ultimate end—and makes it appealingly entertaining. *(Dark Horse, $2.50)*

## PUNISHER: GUTS & GUNPOWDER TRADING CARDS

It's another gimmick-filled card set from Comics Images—and fans can't get enough of 'em! This time around, special scented cards are included...and what better scent to capture the essence of the Punisher than the fragrance of gunpowder? There are also six ever-popular prism cards, which most fans find even more appealing than holograms. *(CI, $1/pack)*

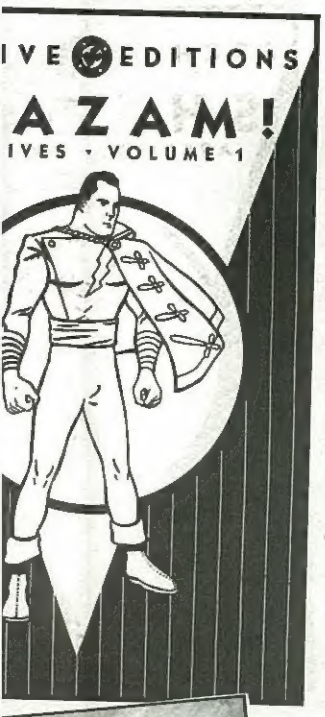
## SHAZAM! ARCHIVES VOLUME ONE

This ***DC Archives*** title probably has the smallest print-run of any book in the series; when the Jerry Ordway



# CSN HOT PICKS





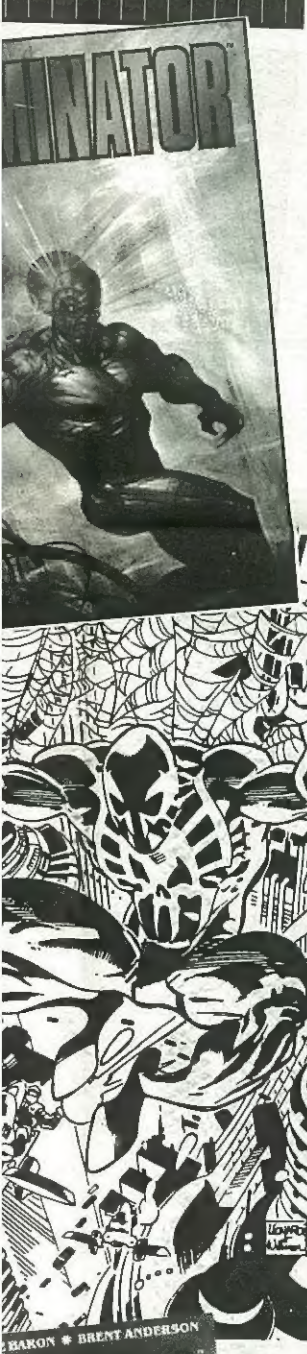

***Power of Shazam!*** graphic novel shows up in a few months, though, there'll be a lot of people looking for this book. This is a great collection of early Captain Marvel adventures from the Golden Age, available at less than half the price of the only other comprehensive Captain Marvel reprint book released previously. Don't assume you'll be able to pick it up later... *(DC, $49.95)*

## SPIDER-MAN 2099 1

The Marvel Universe of 2099 begins to unfold in this, the first of a series of new titles that reveals how the Marvel Universe will change in the next hundred-plus years. It's a great premise—sort of the beginnings of a Marvel silver-age-of-the-future, a hundred and seven years ahead of time—and it offers top-notch work by major talent. Peter David and Rick Leonardi make this the second-best Spidey-related title on the market (yeah, we're still partial to the Michelinie-Bagley work in ***Amazing...***). Oh, yeah—the foil-enhanced cover isn't going to slow down sales, that's for sure... *(Marvel, $1.75)*

## SUPERMAN SPECIAL 1

Remember that Walt Simonson Superman tale we've been telling you about for a couple of years now? Well, it's all done and ready for release—and it's doubtful that the delays have diminished fans' enthusiasm for a book featuring Simonson's version of Superman (as well as his version of the original Lex Luthor). As a bonus, there are some great pin-ups by a variety of talent, including Geoff ***(Hard Boiled)*** Darrow!... *(DC, $3.50)*




## SUPREME 1

Yep, it's a new Image title, and it's another spinoff from Rob Liefeld's ***Youngblood*** concepts. This time, though, the new hero is actually a precursor to Youngblood—at least, that's the premise of the series. Supreme was one of the Earth's first heroes, until he left the planet years ago. Now he's back... but things have certainly changed in his absence! Liefeld and Brian Murray introduce the Image Universe's first Golden Age hero in this new series. *(Image, $1.95)*

## TERMINATOR: ENDGAME 1

One of the problems with doing a comic book series is that you can't always do everything you want to do and leave readers with the prospect of another series to follow it up. Thanks to the legalities of licensing, though, Dark Horse has given James Robinson and Jackson Guice *carte blanche* to do the ultimate kick-ass Terminator storyline... and they don't have to worry about leaving room for a new series afterwards! Since Dark Horse is losing the Terminator license later this year, they're pulling out all the stops and producing a Terminator series that's just as intense as the second film.. And, since they can't reprint these books or collect them into trade paperback once their license has expired, this'll be the only format these stories will ever appear in! *(Dark Horse, $2.50)*

## cover of the month

## supreme 1

## VALOR 1

Here's the other ***Eclipso: The Darkness Within*** spinoff title—and it also has roots in the Legion of Superheroes continuity. While Valor comes from the Legion's future, his new series is set in the current DC continuity—and will have close ties with the Eclipso series also debuting this month. *(DC, $1.25)*

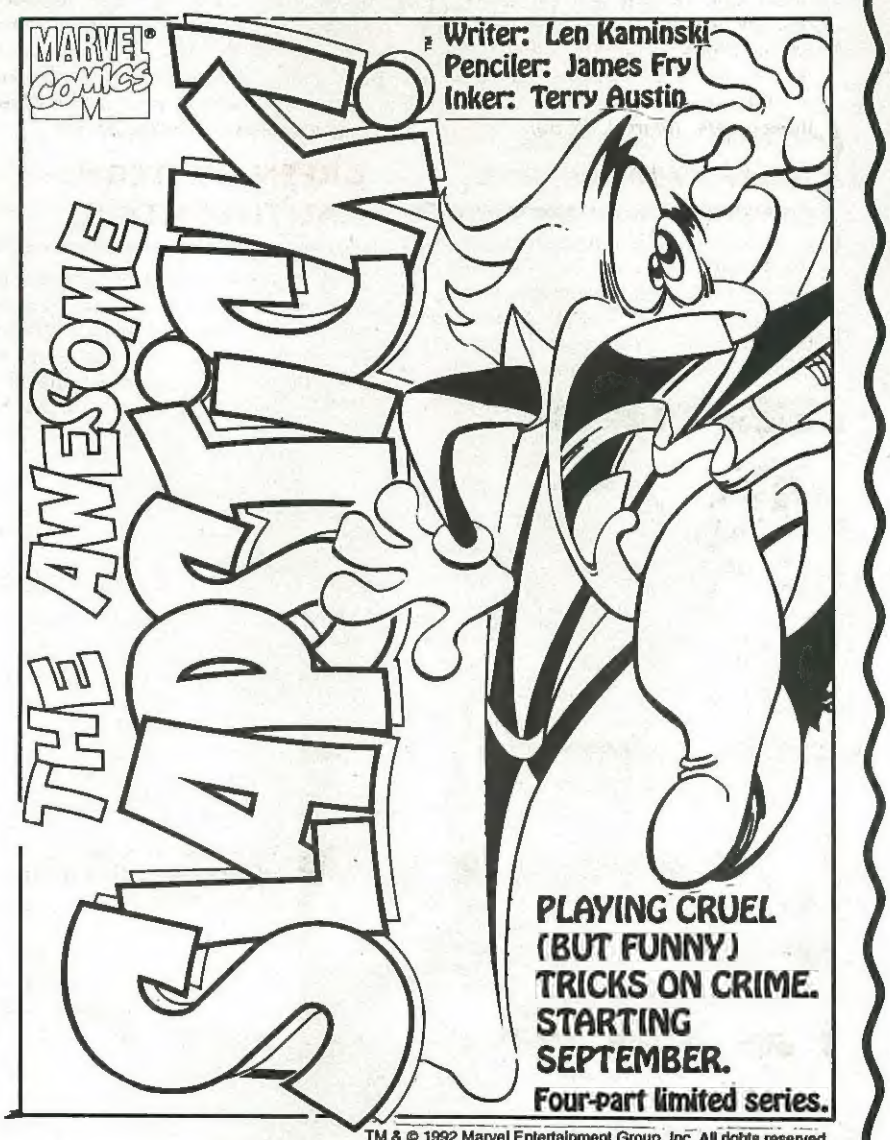
## X-MEN: THE ANIMATED SERIES 1

Here's the other comic series based on an animated series based on a comic series—but in this case, the book looks and reads very much like a standard ***X-Men*** book. Think of as the debut of a new ***X-Men*** series that won't tie in with current mutant continuity and you'll understand why X-Men: The Animated Series is going to have such a short shelf-life. *(Marvel, $1.25)*

## UNCANNY X-MEN 294
## X-FACTOR 84
## X-FORCE 16
## X-MEN 14

The fall mutant crossover series **X-Ecutioner's Song**, pitting the X-Men against Stryfe, is going to be the mutant event of '92. Every installment of this series will be hot, but keep a particular eye out for the ***X-Factor*** issues, since that's usually the lowest-ordered mutant title... Marvel is making this series doubly desirable by polybagging a specially-produced trading card in with each of the twelve installments of the storyline; the only way you can get these twelve cards is to buy all twelve books! *(Marvel, $1.50@)*

**A pin-up from *Superman Special #1***



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# QUICKSHOTS

## Timmmmmber!...Wolf, That Is...

He was quite a hit in the pages of **Legion of Super-Heroes Annual #3**--and now, DC is giving him the opportunity to prove his popularity in his own miniseries. He's Timber Wolf, the beast-man from the 30th Century--but now he finds himself trapped in modern-day San Francisco, where it seems that everyone is out to get him. And for some reason, a streetwise shape-changer named Thrust seems to have it out for him--and when these two meet, violence (and lotsa rubble) is sure to follow.

Michael Eury, editor of **Timber Wolf,** describes the hero as "a beast-man who is essentially good-hearted, but with an occasional instinct to howl at the moon. He operates a thousand years out of sync with the world and this leads him into all kinds of trouble."

**Timber Wolf**, a five-issue miniseries, is written and inked by *Al Gordon; Joe Phillips* supplies the pencil art. By the time the series ends in early 1993, Timber Wolf will become the linchpin of a new group of paranormals, Point Force, who operate as a government-sanctioned strikeforce.

**Timber Wolf #1**, a $1.25 comic, is scheduled for October 8th release.

## For Those Who Can't Afford Such an Expensive Debt

Everyone agrees that **Star Trek: Debt of Honor,** the recently-released DC hardcover graphic novel written by *Chris Claremont* and illustrated by *Adam Hughes* and *Karl Story*, is one of the most entertaining and impressive Star Trek projects ever done for comics. Unfortunately, not everyone could afford the $24.95 pricetag for the hardcover edition. Those whose budget didn't include such a hefty purchase won't have to be left out for long, though; in mid-November, Pocket Books, inc conjunction with DC Comics, will release a $14.95 trade paperback version of **Star Trek: Debt of Honor**, featuring a new cover illustration (but, of course, the same stunning interiors). Why, that leaves you with enough extra cash to pay for almost three months' worth of DC's **Star Trek** and **Star Trek: The Next Generation** series!...

## Everyone Wants to Get In On the Act...

If you have an image of a comic book company as a huge office where hundreds of writers, artists, colorists, and editorial and production staffers work to produce your favorite comics, then you're a bit out of touch. Comics creators live and work all over the US--and, in fact, all over the world--and rely on FedEx, faxes, and phone calls to keep production rolling smoothly. In October, Archie Comics breaks with the current trend of using talent all across the country; instead, they're calling on their entire in-house staff, including their accounting, licensing, and circulation departments--to create **Archie #407**. According to Archie Comics, "For this issue we've divided our employees into four teams who've each contributed a wacky story. Our faithful readers will be asked to vote on which team's story they like best, with the winning team enjoying an awe-inspiring, sun-tanning Club Med vacation!" You can see just how well each team did on October 22nd, when **Archie #407** is scheduled for release.

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Invasion Of The Spider Slayers:a six-issue bi-weekly series.

SPIDER-MAN

Hunted by killer robots.
Attacked by the Scorpion
And re-united with his parents.

Sometimes
it's not easy

WRITER: David Michelinie
PENCILER: Mark Bagley
INKER: Randy Emberlin

MARVEL COMICS

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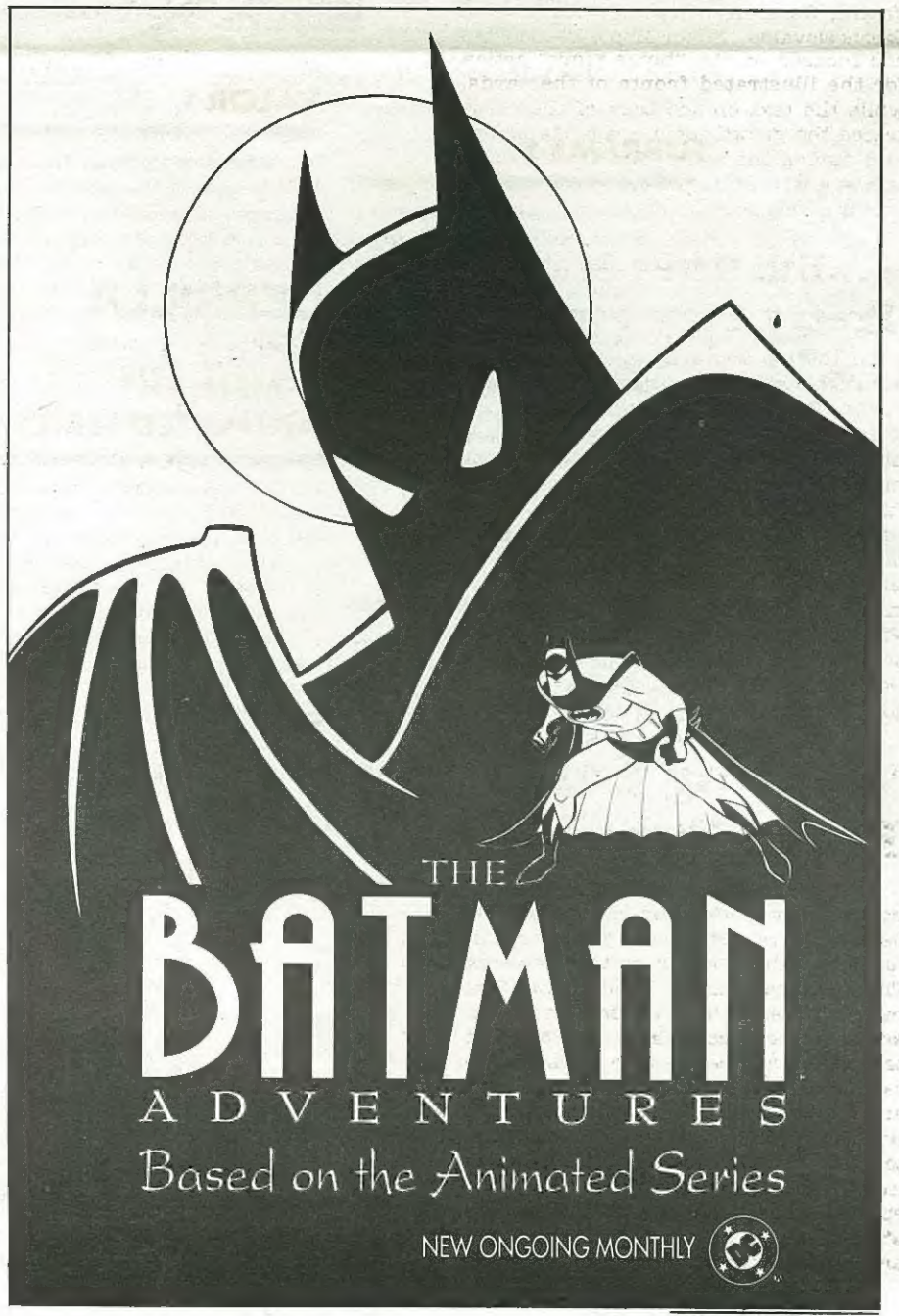


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## Cut The Cards—Or, In This Case, Slash 'Em...

In the early 1960's, young card collectors were entertained by a serious of Monster Cards, featuring black and white photos from classic horror films accompanied by funny word balloons. Well, times change, and today's horror fans are looking for something a little more... gory. Comic Images is pleased to comply with ***Fangoria Collector Horror Cards,*** a new 90-card series featuring a variety of gruesome full-color shots of the type that Fangoria fans have come to know and love. The series will also include special effects cards from the new vampire film ***Children of the Night*** as well as a new type of bonus card, the Comic Images Chromium Cards. "You've got to see 'em to believe 'em," Comic Images says—and you'll be able to see 'em in October, when the cards hit the comic shops. ***Fangoria Collectors Horror Cards*** are priced at $1 per pack; check with your local comic shop for information about pricing on a 48-pack box.

## The Art of War

World War II was not only the most brutal and devastating war of the 20th Century, it also was one of the most illustrated. Photos, drawings, and paintings captured the images of war for contemporary society as well as for history. One type of war-related art that reached its zenith during this war was propaganda art; virtually every country produced scores of propaganda images extolling the virtues of their side and ridiculous the enemy in unpleasant imagery.

***War Cry Trading Cards,*** a 36-card series from Kitchen Sink Press, offers a sampling of that propaganda art from the United States, England, France, Russia, Japan, Germany, Greece, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. Editor Monte Beauchamp has focused on the "home front" action for the illustrated fronts of the cards, while the text on the back of the cards traces the growth of propaganda before and during the war. ***War Cry Trading Cards,*** a $10.95 boxed set, will be available in comic shops in October.

## ...But They Make Pretty Tiny Pin-Ups

If there's any one name inextricably connected with the illustrated pin-up, it's Varga. For over a half a century now, admirers of female pulchritude have recognized and appreciated his stylish paintings, always tastefully executed. This fall, 21st Century Archives will select fifty-one of Varga's best paintings from his first decade of illustration, dating all the way back to his October 15, 1940 premiere, and reproduce them in their first ***Pin-Up Girls Trading Card Series.*** Each set of cards will feature one limited edition prism card; the cards are priced at $15.95 per set.

## Getting Some Extra Exposure

***Northern Exposure*** has become the hottest cult-tv series since ***Twin Peaks*** lost its edge; as you might have predicted, cult-favorite status guarantees trading cards. This fall, The Ultimate Trading Card Company is releasing its first series of ***Northern Exposure Trading Cards.*** The hundred-card series will feature nine cards and one send-in card in each set; autograph cards are randomly inserted in the series, and five lucky winners will instantly win a trip to "Cicely" to watch ***Northern Exposure*** being filmed and possibly appear in an episode of the show. ***Northern Exposure Trading Cards***, priced at $1.25 per pack, are scheduled for October release.

## Comic Images Makes a Valiant Effort

Valiant Comics' ***Unity*** series was one of the hottest crossover storylines this year; it's only appropriate, therefore, that the first series of Valiant Comics collectors' cards would focus on that landmark storyline. Comic Images ***Unity Trading Cards,*** a 90-card series supplemented by six Comic Images Chromium Cards bonus cards, spotlights the entire ***Unity*** storyline featuring every hero in the Valiant Universe, complete with art by Barry Windsor-Smith, David Lapham, Bob Layton, and others. ***Unity Trading Cards*** are priced at $1 per pack; your local comic shop can give you info on the price for a 48-pack box.

LAST WEEK **CSN** FEATURED THE COMPLETE SEPTEMBER CHECKLIST.

NEXT WEEK **CSN** WILL FEATURE REVIEWS. REMEMBER, THESE ARE REVIEWS OF BOOKS DUE OUT OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS SO YOU CAN HEAR ABOUT THEM BEFORE THEY'RE ON THE STANDS!

**COMIC SHOP NEWS**

*MISS A WEEK AND YOU MISS A LOT!*


# THE GREATEST AMERICAN COMIC BOOK™ #1

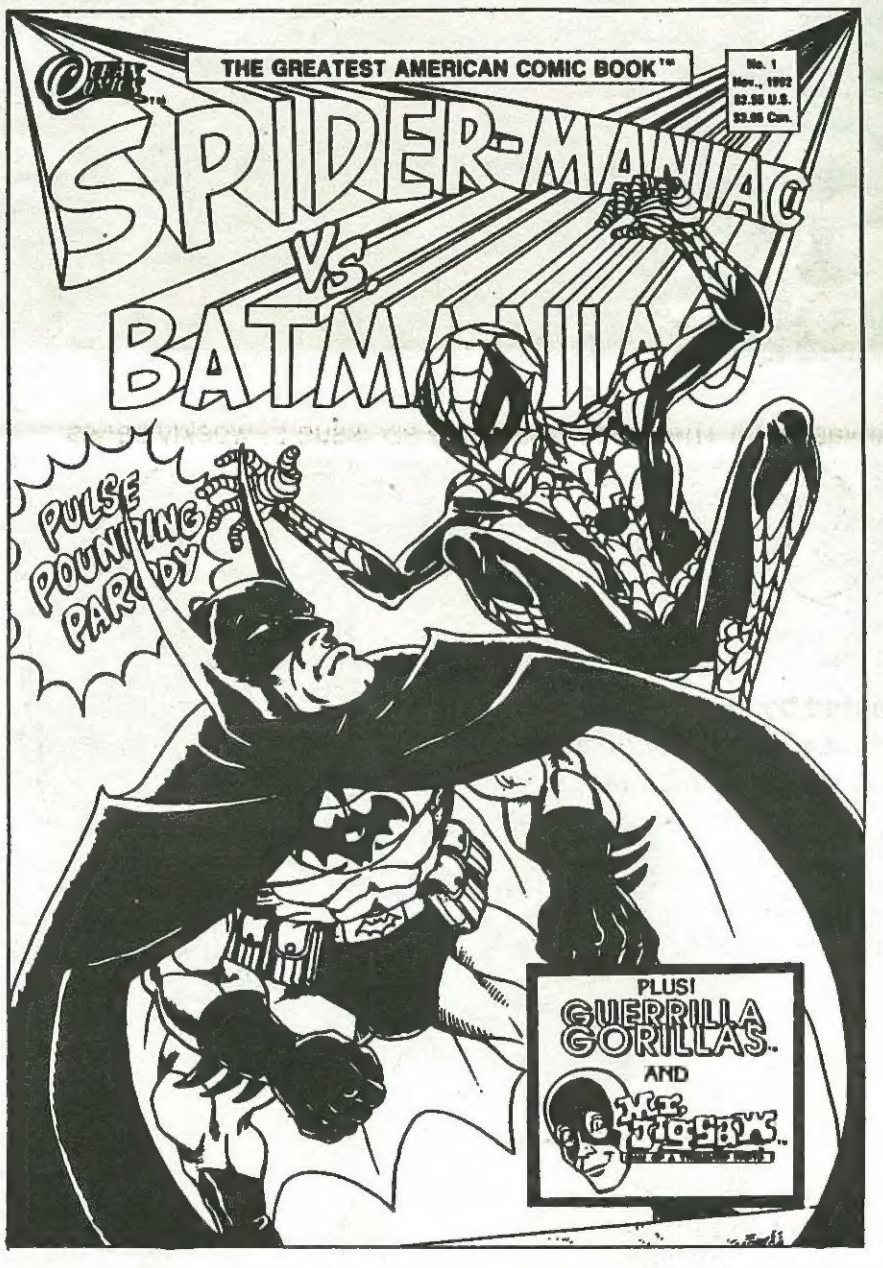
**FEATURING**

**SPIDER-MANIAC VS. BATMANIAC** by
S.A. BENNETT (writer)
DAVE GARCIA (penciler)
BILL PEARSON (inker/letterer)

**GUERRILLA GORILLAS™** by
BOB PALIN (writer)
GRASS GREEN (artist)

**MR. JIGSAW™** by
RON FORTIER (writer)
GARY KATO (artist)

cover by
BEN DUNN (artist)
BILL PEARSON (letterer)
KATHY PALIN (colorist)




**COMING THIS NOVEMBER FROM OCEAN COMICS™** "Did you miss us?"

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Groo™ & © 1992 Sergio Aragones

GROO #96!
"The Wager of the Gods" --
part 1 of 4!

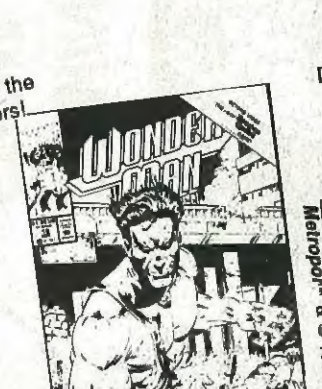
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #370!
The Black Cat and Spidey take on the
Scorpion and more Spider Slayers!

GHOST RIDER #32!
Dan Ketch returns and proves that
two halves are better than one!

RAVAGE 2099 #1!
By Stan Lee and Paul Ryan!
First issue features a foil-stamped cover!

Death's Head II™ & © 1992 Marvel UK Ltd

DEATH'S HEAD II #1!
All-new ongoing series
guest-starring the X-Men!




WONDER MAN #16!
Wondy loses all control and
smashes everything to rubble!

Metropol™ & © 1992 Ted McKeever

METROPOL A.D. #3!
The final battle between
Angels and Devils erupts!

ALPHA FLIGHT #115!
Introducing an all-new villain, Wyre!

# Marvel Comics Shipping The Week Of October 13th